

Marina

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Drystack opens in Broward County

USA: Aquamarina Hidden Harbour in Pompano Beach, Florida, opened its doors in June with a grand opening event that immediately secured 30 lease holders. The \$8 million drystack is the first newly constructed conventional dry storage marina in the region in more than a decade and the first in Broward County since a three-year moratorium on new commercial marina construction was lifted in 2007.

A full-service facility with 384 drystack slots, Aquamarina Hidden Harbour is designed to hold boats up to 43 feet in overall length inside a Category 4 hurricane-rated building. Other amenities include a shipyard with 75-ton boat mover, high-speed fuel pumps, ice, bait, pump-out and a well stocked ship's store. Managers – Aqua Marine Partners (AMP) – who designed, developed and built the facility – also have future plans for retail outlets, a restaurant and office space.

The new drystack comes on line at a critical time according to AMP founder and CEO, Andy Sturner. He noted that over the past decade, the amount of dock space in South Florida has severely dried out largely due to marina owners selling out to residential developers and the Broward County moratorium that was put in place while a detailed manatee protection plan was crafted.

“Even though the economy has struggled over the past year, there is still a strong need for a full-service quality marina that

caters to the boating lifestyle,” Sturner said. “Our goal is to bring affordable luxury back to the South Florida boating experience. Toward that end, we have spared no expense in the design of this state-of-the-art marina. To complete the promise, we are offering special pricing on all our products.”

Andy Sturner (fifth from left) and staff at the drystack grand opening.

